Tribal development proposals of Andhra Pradesh

270. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the latest status of the proposals for tribal development received from Government of Andhra Pradesh which are still pending for approval;

(b) the reasons for delay in clearing these proposals;

(c) by when these proposals are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the details of the ongoing tribal development projects in the State along with those proposed to be implemented during the current year and the next?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (d) Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides financial assistance to State Governments for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes under various schemes/programmes of the Ministry based on the allocation criteria prescribed under the guidelines. Funds are released subject to fulfillment of prescribed conditions which *inter alia* includes submission of utilization certificates for the fund released in previous years. the details of proposals received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh during 2007-08 are as under:

(i) Release of Rs. 600 lakh to Girijan Cooperative Corporation Ltd. (GCC), Visakhapatnam under the scheme of Grant-in-Aid to STDCCs etc. for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) Operations;

(ii) Proposals under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution for an amount of Rs. 2599.76 lakh from Government of India.

The aforesaid proposals are processed as per prescribed procedure under the respective scheme/programme and funds and the timing of release is subject to fulfilment of prescribed conditions. In case of 'Grant-in-Aid to STDCCs etc. for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) Operations', the scheme is under review in the light of the instructions/ guidelines for continuation of the existing schemes during Eleventh Plan.

The State Government and Intergrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs) implement a number of tribal development projects/ scheme in tribal areas for the welfare/ development of the Scheduled Tribes under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and details of such tribal development projects are not maintained in this Ministry.

New Anganwadi Centres

271. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) were to be sanctioned by December, 2008 and if so, whether only 10.53 lakh AWCs were sanctioned till 31st March, 2007;

(b) whether more than 2.72 lakhs of AWCs already sanctioned are not operational till date; if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Apex Court has directed Government to operationalise the balance of sanctioned AWCs by 15th July, 2007; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to comply with the directives of the Apex Court?